

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6225

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO CHUSMTM DHAHRAN

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 7145

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MARR, MILI, SA, SU

SUBJECT: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT CASE AAA

1. IN HIS OCTOBER 21 MEETING WITH SAUDI MINDEF PRINCE SULTAN BIN ABD AL AZIZ DEPSECDEF CLEMENTS RAISED THE SUBJECT OF THE URGENT NEED FOR SIGNATURE OF FMS CASE AAA FOR THE SUPPORT OF USMTM. IN THE ENSUING DISCUSSION MR. CLEMENTS AND PRINCE SULTAN AGREED THAT (1) THE SAG WOULD SIGN FMS CASE AAA, AND (2) THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CURRENTLY UNDER NEGOTIATION SHOULD BE SIGNED WITHOUT ARTICLE EIGHT (THE ONLY POINT OF DISAGREEMENT) WHICH WOULD BE LEFT FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATION. UNTIL AGREEMENT ON THAT ARTICLE IS REACHED, STATUS OF USMTM PERSONNEL TO REMAIN AS DEFINED BY 1953 AGREEMENT.

2. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE ON THE NEXT STEP. WE BELIEVE THAT THE MOST EFFECTIVE COURSE MIGHT NOW BE FOR THE CHARGE TO SEND A LETTER TO DEPFONMIN MANSOURI WHO HAS BEEN CONDUCTING THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE SAUDI SIDE, INFORM HIM OF THE SULTAN-CLEMENTS CONVERSATION, AND TELL HIM THAT THE US SIDE IS PREPARED IMMEDIATELY TO SIGN THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AS PRESENTLY AGREED, LESS ARTICLE EIGHT.

3. QUESTION ALSO ARISES HOW TO DEAL IN THE TEXT OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE MISSING ARTICLE.

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THOUGH AN OBVIOUS APPROACH WOULD BE TO INCLUDE THE TEXTS

ADVOCATED BY THE TWO SIDES, WE BELIEVE A PREFERABLE SOLUTION AND ONE LIKELY TO BE MORE QUICKLY ACCEPTED BY THE SAUDI SIDE WOULD BE TO WRITE THE SECTION SIMPLY, "ARTICLE EIGHT. (PENDING COMPLETION OF NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS ARTICLE, PARA 7 OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND SAUDI ARABIA IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENT OF JUNE 18, 1951 EFFECTED BY EXCHANGE OF NOTES SIGNED AT JIDDA JUNE 27, 1953 SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT.)"

HORAN

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